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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/603,339	06/26/2000	James Alan Strothmann	RCA-88878	2228

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PATENT OPERATIONS
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EXAMINER

SHANG, ANNAN Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2623

DATE MAILED: 07/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/603,339

Applicant(s)

STROTHMANN

Examiner

Annan Q. Shang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,9-17,19 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,9-17,19 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 06/12/06 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-6, 9-11, 14-17 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Kanazawa et al (6,580,870)** previously cited.

As to claims 1-2, note the **Kanazawa** reference figures 1-2, discloses systems and methods for reproducing audiovisual information with external information and further discloses a method for providing graphics for display, the claimed method comprises the following:

receiving a bitstream (Set top box 'STB' or IRD, 'a digital interface' col.8, lines 48-65) including an MPEG compliant program bitstream and a DVD subpicture compliant bitstream (figs.1-2 and 12, col.4, line 45-col.5, line 34 and col.7, lines 11-30);

extracting (CPU-1, col.6, lines 32-col.7, line 10) and decoding (MPEG-Decoder 112, col.10, line 55-col.11, line 15) the MPEG compliant bitstream to generate a program image signal (figs.10A-13C, 19A-B, col.14, lines 40-54 and col.15, lines 32-67);

extracting (CPU-1) and decoding (MPEG-Decoder 112, col.10, line 55-col.11, line 15) DVD subpicture compliant bitstream to generate a graphic image signal (col.17, line 50-col.18, line 23);

combining the program image signal and the graphic image signal to provide and output display signal (VGA Controller 113, 'a display processor' col.14, line 55-col.15, line 31), where the DVD subpicture compliant bitstream comprises an interactive or selectable graphic (see figs. 10A-13C, 19A-B, web mark 90, selectable regions 92b-c, 93, 95, etc.,) having selectable regions that, when selected, causes the display of other DVD subpicture graphics associated with the subpicture compliant bitstream (col.6, lines 37-col.7, line 64 and col.14, line 40-col.16, line 40), note that the plurality of DVD subpicture are extracted and decoded to generate a plurality of graphical image signals, furthermore although Kanazawa discloses processing of MPEG bit data and DVD bit data and transmitting over Internet to a receiver, Kanazawa further discloses where the invention is applied to TV broadcasting or CATV network, which a provider to transmitting the bitstream and a STB or IRD with an MPEG Decoder/DVD Decoder 112 for decoding the bitstream

As to claim 3, Kanazawa further discloses where at least one of the DVD subpicture compliant bitstreams is buffered (col.14, lines 40-54 and col.15, lines 11-18)

As to claim 4, Kanazawa further discloses where at least one of the DVD subpicture compliant bitstreams repeats in the MPEG bitstream (figs.12, 18 and col.7, lines 11-30 and col.14, line 33+)

As to claim 5, Kanazawa further discloses where the DVD subpicture compliant bitstream comprises an MPEG still image (col.5, lines 1-54 and col.11, line 16+)

As to claim 6, Kanazawa further discloses where the DVD subpicture compliant bitstream comprises a program guide (col.5, lines 1-54).

Claim 9 is met as previously discussed with respect to claim 1

As to claims 10-11, the claimed "a video signal processing apparatus..." is composed of the same structural elements that were discussed in the rejection of claim 1.

Claim 14 is met as previously discussed with respect to claim 3.

Claim 15 is met as previously discussed with respect to claim 1.

Claim 16 is met as previously discussed with respect to claim 3.

Claim 17 is met as previously discussed with respect to claim 6.

As to claim 19, the claimed "a video signal processing apparatus..." is composed of the same structural elements that were discussed in the rejection of claim 1.

As to claim 20, Kanazawa further discloses where the bitstream from the remote signal source further comprises at least a two MPEG compliant program bitstreams

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transmitted substantially concurrently by the remote signal source (col.5, lines 1-54 and col.11, line 16+ and col.14, line 40-col.16, line 40).

4. Claim 12, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kanazawa et al (6,580,870)** as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of **Yanagihara et al (6,211,800)**.

As to claim 12, **Kanazawa**, fails to specifically teach where the receiving means comprises a digital interface and demodulator coupled to the digital interface and the MPEG decoder, where the digital interface is IEEE 1394 digital Interface.

However, note **Yanagihara** reference figure 5, disclose Data that is an MPEG program stream (PS) read out from a disc is supplied to a PS/TS Converter via a variable rate control section and PS/TS Converter converts the PS MPEG data into a transport stream (TS) and transmits it to a presentation device via a 1394 transmission/reception section where the 1394 transmission/reception section of the presentation device is classified by a DEMUX section, an audio, video decoder that decodes TS MPEG data and D/A converters that converts resulting digital data into analog signals and output the analog signals, note col. 5, line 43-col. 6, line 20.

Therefore the examiner submits it would have been clearly obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Yanagihara into the system of Kanazawa in order provide and high speed interface that transfers good quality video with low bandwidth.

5. Claim 13, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kanazawa et al (6,580,870)** as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of **Suzuki (6,344,836)**.

As to claim 13, **Kanazawa**, fails to specifically teach where the receiving means comprises a digital interface and demodulator coupled to the digital interface and where the digital interface is a USB digital interface.

However, note the **Suzuki** reference figure 1, disclose an information browsing system with one system device and a plurality of displays connected to the system device by a USB digital interface, note figure 1 and col. 5, lines 10-23 and col.6, line 6-20.

Therefore the examiner submits it would have been clearly obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of into the system of Suzuki into the system of Kanazawa in order to provide a digital interface that easily connects devices together.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 0//12/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to claims 1-6, 9-17, 19 and 20, applicant discusses the disclosure of the prior art of record **Kanazawa et al. (6,580,870)**, and argues that Kanazawa does not disclosed the claimed invention, i.e., receiving including an MPEG compliant program bitstream and a DVD subpicture compliant bitstream;...where the DVD subpicture compliant bitstream comprises an interactive graphic having selectable regions that

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when selected, causes the display of other DVD subpicture graphics associated with the subpicture compliant bitstream...”

In response, Examiner disagrees. Examiner notes applicant's arguments, as discussed in the above office action, Kanazawa discloses processing of MPEG bit data and DVD bit data and transmitting over Internet to a receiver (figs.1-2, 12 and col.4, line 33-col.5, line 34). Kanazawa further discloses where the DVD bit data includes selectable or interactive DVD subpictures which when selected causes the display of other DVD subpicture (figs.10A-11B, 13A-13C, 19A-19B, col.8, line 48-col.9, line 1+and col.14, lines 40-65). Although the disclosure of Kanazawa is directly to an Internet network, Kanazawa further discloses that the invention is applied to TV broadcasting or CATV network, which includes STB or IRD which comprises an MPEG Decoder/DVD Decoder 112 (col.10, line 55-col.11, line 1+). Hence, applicant's arguments are not persuasive, as the Kanazawa disclosure meets all the claimed limitations. This office action is non-final.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

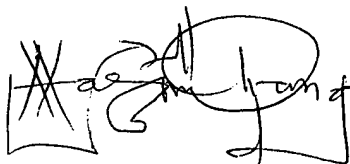
Velez et al (6,678,006) discloses method and apparatus for video processing that includes sub-picture scaling.

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Annan Q. Shang** whose telephone number is **571-272-7355**. The examiner can normally be reached on **700am-400pm**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Christopher S. Kelley** can be reached on **571-272-7331**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the **Electronic Business Center (EBC)** at **866-217-9197 (toll-free)**. If you would like assistance from a **USPTO Customer Service Representative** or access to the automated information system, call **800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA)** or **571-272-1000**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Annan Q. Shang', enclosed within a rectangular box.

Annan Q. Shang